



**NORTH WEST  
HOCKEY**

**NORTH WEST HOCKEY  
LTD AGM**

**6 JULY 2023**

**CANDIDATE LEAFLET**

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## Note:

### **DIRECTORS:**

The directors who have held office during the period from 2 June 2021 to the date of this report are as follows:

Mr C Reece – Chair - appointed 2 June 2021  
Mr N H Riley – Finance - appointed 2 June 2021  
Ms S Everett – Vice Chair – appointed 14 July 2021  
Mrs K Wholey – Operations - appointed 14 July 2021, Resigned 13 April 2022  
Mr P Parr – Governance - appointed 14 July 2021, Resigned 18 August 2021  
Mr S Ransley – Governance – appointed (by the Board) 1 December 2021 Resigned 5 December 2022  
Mrs W McDowall – Operations – appointed 7 July 2022  
Ms L M Bleasdale - Governance - appointed 21 March 2023 (by the Board)

In Accordance with the Articles of Association (13.5), two directors offer themselves for election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. This being Mr N H Riley (Finance Director) and Ms L M Bleasdale (Governance Director).

### **LEAD CHAIRS:**

In Accordance with the Articles of Association (27.1.b) the Lead Chairs offer themselves for election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting. Note: although still have vacancies for: Chair Adult Competitions & Leagues and Chair Junior Competitions & Leagues.

# **Agenda**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Apologies for absence and confirmation of quorum**
- 3. Chair's Remarks**
- 4. Announcement of Postholder election results**
- 5. Minutes of the last AGM held on 7 July 2022(draft attached)**
  - 4.1 Approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting
  - 4.2 Matters arising
- 6. Review of North West Hockey Ltd 2022-23 (attached)**
  - 6.1 Overview of 2022-23
  - 6.2 Questions
- 7. North West Hockey Limited Financial Report**
  - 7.1 Financial Summary of operation income and expenditure for the period up to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023
  - 7.2 Note the Report to Directors and Unaudited Financial Statements for the period 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023 (attached)
  - 7.3 Note the Independent Scrutineer's report on the North West Hockey Ltd (attached)
- 8. Resolutions to be voted on at the meeting**
  - 8.1 Proposed Club Membership Subscription Fees for 2023-24
  - 8.2 Proposed Entry Fees for North West Hockey Competitions and Leagues for 2023-24
- 9. Appointed Umpire Fees: (Information)**

Note the Appointed Umpire Fees to be paid by Clubs for 2023-24
- 10. Update on the Adult League Structure 2023-24**
- 11. Any Other Business**

(of which due notice of 14 days has been given by written notice of the issue)

# Elected Postholders - Brief Role Descriptions

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Finance Director

To manage the Area finances, contribute to strategic business planning and review and recommend financial policies and controls for the Area to enable appropriate management information is available to underpin Board decisions. Provide contributions as a Director to the Area Board of Directors.

### Governance Director

To be responsible for promoting good corporate governance and educating members, embedding and documenting good practice within the Area. Supporting the promotion of a proactive approach to player welfare and safety. Ensuring the data management systems are used appropriately and that information is held safely and kept updated, to help contribute to the efficient running of the Area. Establish credibility with stakeholders, including local authorities and educational establishments and help to maintain the integrity of the England Hockey brand to attract potential sponsors.

## AREA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

### Chair Adult Competitions & Leagues - VACANT

To provide vision, leadership and strategic planning in all aspects of the Area Adult League & Competition in line with England Hockey guidelines. To oversee the Area Adult League & Competition committee ensuring delivery and monitoring of a robust adult league and competition programme, with a high level of customer satisfaction.

### Chair Junior Competitions & Leagues - VACANT

To provide vision, leadership and strategic planning to help develop all aspects of Junior Competitions across the Area in line with the England Hockey Junior Competitions Framework. To oversee the Junior Competition committee ensuring partnership working between EH, the Area and sub-areas to deliver a robust programme, for the benefit of all.

### Chair Masters Hockey

To provide vision, leadership and business planning to help develop all aspects of Master's hockey across the Area in line with the England Hockey framework. To oversee the Master's committee ensuring partnership working between the Areas to deliver a robust programme, for the benefit of all.

### Chair Officiating

To provide vision, leadership and strategic planning in all aspects of the Area Officiating in line with the England Hockey guidelines. To oversee the Officiating committee to ensure delivery of umpire developer and development pathways to umpires at all levels, with a high level of customer satisfaction. Being an important link between Officiating and the rest of the game.

# Candidates for Director Roles

## Governance Director

### Name: Leighan Bleasdale

I have been the North West Adult Leagues and Competitions Chair for two years delivering the adult league competition programme and managing the transition towards the new league structures and regulations. Since 2016 I was a member of the North League Committee where I was a Division Coordinator for the women's league and the West Area Administrator where I managed the men's and women's league committee west of the Pennines and prepared for the 8 Area structure we have today. I have also held the position of Chairperson of the Lancashire Central Women's Hockey League and Vice President of the Lancashire Hockey Association. I remain on the Lancashire Hockey Association committee as a co-opted member.



For the last 10 years I have been the Club Captain at Lancaster Hockey Club, managing the committee and overseeing the provision of coaching for junior and adult players. Aside from the volunteering in hockey, I am the 1<sup>st</sup> Team goalkeeper and captain at Lancaster Hockey Club. I previously played for Loughborough Students. This season I also proudly represented the North West O35 Women's Team where we were crowned Area champions.

In my day job I am a Quality Assurance Manager and Management Representative for a Class III medical device manufacturer. I am responsible for maintaining an ISO 13485 quality management system and ensuring compliance with various international regulations. I am a qualified auditor where it is essential at building collaborative relationships whilst striving for continuous improvement.

I believe my knowledge of hockey in the North West and the skill set I have allow me to fulfil the role and responsibilities of Governance Director.

## Finance Director

### Name: Niall Riley

"I am currently Honorary President of Triton Hockey Club based in Alsager, Cheshire and have held the position of Finance Director for North West Hockey Ltd since its formation in 2021.

In my role of Finance Director, I have worked with the board and management committee to make North West Hockey Ltd financially stable and put it in a position to financially support the playing and future development of all aspects of Hockey in the North West.

As a Chartered Engineer and past company director, I also have the necessary experience to provide a positive contribution to the running and development of North West Hockey Ltd.

As to hockey, I have been involved with playing, umpiring and club management in Cheshire and the North West for many years; in addition to being involved at both County and League level as Treasurer for Cheshire HA and Divisional Secretary for Cheshire Women's Hockey League, prior to the formation of North West Hockey.

I therefore have a sound understanding of what is required to run a limited company together with an excellent understanding of the needs of grass roots hockey in the North West.

I am also retired and therefore have time to devote to what can be a demanding role.



In accordance with the Articles of Association for North West Hockey, my position is due for re-election at the forthcoming AGM.

I am however, happy to stand for re-election and would ask for your support.

Niall Riley

## Candidates for Chair of Committee Roles

### Officiating

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#### Name: Annette Badger

I became a member of the NHUA as an umpire 'some time ago', subsequently gained my L2 Umpire Coach Award and joined the Committee as the Umpire Coach Coordinator. I later took on the role of Appointments Secretary, then finally became Chair of the Selection Panel and throughout that time I was a member of the Management Committee and ultimately President of the NHUA.

Having been the Umpire Representative on the North H.A. Women's League Committee I was invited to be a Vice President of the NHA in 2015 and became Deputy President and Chair of the NHA Executive Committee in 2018.

From 2017 to 2020 I was a member of the Vision Group tasked with developing a structure for umpiring and officiating for the future which has formed the basis of the current reorganisation.

In 2019 I joined the NPUA serving on the EHOPC as a selector and the Men's C Panel Lead and gained my L3 Umpire Coach Award.

Whilst my days as an active umpire, coach and assessor are now over, I look forward to leading the AOC in this new venture.



### Masters

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#### Name: Tony Taig

Tony is the men's' chair of Winnington Park HC and a keen masters player for Cheshire, the North, the England LX club and the Ancient Britons. For the past several years he has acted as coordinator of Masters Hockey for the North HA. He is keen to increase participation in Masters Hockey across the North West – he only found out about Masters by a lucky coincidence and has enjoyed it so much he'd like many others to do likewise.

